

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 37, Number 20

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, April 18, 1974

SHL Recreation Center Plans Re-examined

by Al Skolnik

Attracting the most attention at the Monday, Apr. 15, city council meeting were the plans for the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. The building is scheduled to be located at the corner of Springhill Drive and Cherrywood Lane next to the present golf course club house.

About 80 percent of the plans have been completed for the project but the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has now suggested several revisions. These include the use of hardwood floor for the gym, construction of a breezeway between the club house and the new building, and an emergency exit at the southwest corner of the building. In addition PRAB strongly urged that the gym be air conditioned as well as the rest of the building. The council had asked the architect to present alternate plans, one of which would exclude the gym from air conditioning.

Costly Changes

The council was generally sympathetic to the changes but noted that they would increase the cost of the building. City Manager Jim Giese said that a hardwood floor is substantially more expensive to install than other floor material and is also more expensive to maintain, requiring regular refinishing. He also noted that it is also more easily damaged by some of the non-athletic activities for which a recreation center gym is used. Current plans call for a plastic floor finish which apparently has been used with success by the newer Park and Planning Commission recreation centers.

PRAB members noted, in reply, that plastic floors are not as good a surface as a wood surface for playing basketball, and contribute more to injuries. PRAB also thought that the SHL recreation center could be limited in its use of non-athletic activities by, for example, confining roller skate activity to the Youth Center.

Giese also expressed some reluctance about constructing and enclosing a 15-foot breezeway between the club house and the new building. He was not sure that there would be enough intercommunication between the two buildings to warrant the added expense. PRAB members argued that such a breezeway would assure better control over club house activities and more convenient and efficient use of facilities.

As for the additional emergency exit, Giese did not believe it was necessary as plans call for four such exits. However, council agreed that it would ask the advice of the Greenbelt Fire Department on the matter.

Escalating Costs

Several council members pointed out that final decisions on these items will have to await the cost estimates. The \$950,000 bond issue originally had allotted \$60,000 for the SHL Recreation Center which was mainly to consist of multi-purpose game rooms. Now, Giese said the plans call for a gym, youth lounge-game room, and an exercise or multi-purpose room with the adjacent club house used for conduct of recreation classes. As a result of these expanded plans and rapidly increasing construction costs, the cost of the building is now projected at \$306,000 (with architect and engineering costs amounting to another \$30,000).

The city had also originally counted on Federal revenue-sharing funds to finance a large part of the recreation center. A cut-back in these funds however, plus a push to divert a larger portion of revenue-sharing funds to cover operating deficits rather than finance capital improvements, has

left only \$105,000 for the SHL Recreation Center. The rest would have to be made up from the \$950,000 bond issue money.

Councilman Gil Weidenfeld noted that every additional dollar that goes into the recreation center means one less dollar available for the various other projects to be funded through the bond issue. He was supported by Mayor Richard Pilski who said that fiscal considerations would have to be uppermost in the final approval of the plans.

Other Matters

In other action, council

— opposed the granting of a liquor license at the Paramount Building on Greenbelt Road because the location is less than the legally required 1,000 feet from the Greenbelt Junior High School

— accepted the offer of an 11-year old youngster from Beltsville and his friends to help clean up Greenbelt lake.

— approved a request by the Prince Georges County Chapter of the American Red Cross for use of part of the lake on May 18 and 19 for a canoe safety instruction course.

— accepted the resignation of Joseph Mulvihill from the Advisory Planning Board.

— went on record endorsing a proposal of the Metropolitan-Washington Coalition for Clean Air, Inc., for increased commuter rail facilities, including the Baltimore & Ohio facility from Union Station through Laurel.

— referred to the city manager the question of where to place a plaque in honor of Labor Day Festival Steering Committee members.

— expressed concern that effective controls be initiated to confine use of tennis courts to Greenbelt residents.

— approved a change in APB procedures that would permit the presence of three APB members to constitute a quorum to transact business.

— approved inclusion of an environmental impact statement with all reports prepared by APB and PRAB.

WHAT GOES ON

Sun., April 21, 12:30 - 1 p.m.
"Ride-a-Bike for the Retarded", Youth Center.

Mon., April 22, 8 p.m., Greenbelt Garden Club Meeting, G.H.I. meeting room.

Mon. April 22, 8 p.m. Review of Capital Improvement Budget; Municipal Building.

EPA Public Hearing

A public hearing in Greenbelt will be held by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to the issuance of an EPA permit for the Greenbriar treatment plant. The hearing is scheduled for May 15 at 10 a.m. in the city council room.

Karate Demonstration

The Mishkan Torah Sisterhood meeting of Tuesday, April 23 will feature an exhibition in the art of self-defense by students from the Jhoon Rhee Karate School. The Karate demonstration, starting at 9 p.m., will follow a short business meeting.

BULLETIN

By an overwhelming vote, the membership of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. last night approved a 5%-6% increase in monthly charges to help finance the fuel-saving capital improvement program and to cover the 1973 deficit in fuel oil costs. The increase will go into effect June 1.

Will Greenbriar Go Condominium?

by Elaine Skolnik

It appears that Greenbriar will be going condominium. On and off during the Greenbriar saga, the possibility of converting the luxury apartment development into a condominium arose. A recent exchange of correspondence between county councilman Francis White and developer Alan Kay confirms the imminence of such a venture.

In reply to councilman White's letter encouraging condominium as a means of conforming to Greenbelt's community goal "to preserve and develop to the maximum individually owned or co-operatively owned homes or apartments rather than rentals," Kay indicated that he was taking steps in such a direction.

Kay said that he agreed with the city's desire "to have home owners rather than renters, not only to continue their history of citizen participation in civic affairs, but to avoid the problems that are inherent in transiency."

The city recently became aware of the impending changeover to condominium, and Kay expects shortly to provide the city with more detailed information.

Tax-wise, the city of Greenbelt and the county are expected to benefit by a shift to condominium since the tax yield from such properties is higher than that from rental apartments. But the conversion raises many questions. How will it effect the conditions of the special exception for additional bedroom units? What will be the status of the on-site temporary sewage treatment plant? Is the donation of 5 acres of open-space in any way affected?

Kay told the News Review that for some time he was considering going the condominium route. "After extensive exploration of the feasibility of making Greenbriar a condominium, coupled with the appeal of councilman Francis White, we have moved in that direction." He hoped the conversion would be a popular one with the Greenbelt citizenry.

White in his letter stressed the shortage of homes for sale in Prince Georges county and the desirability of retaining people in the community as property owners who will actively participate in community affairs. Kay noted that in addition to the scarcity of new developments brought on by the sewer moratorium, the astounding increase in real estate values during the past few years has priced most single-family homes out of the prospective buyer's market.

Greenbelt Garden Club

The Greenbelt Garden Club will meet Mon., April 22, 8 p.m. at the G.H.I. headquarters. Ray Bosman, county agent, will discuss available insecticides and gardening in general. New officers will be elected at this meeting.

CORRECTION

In last week's article, "Involved Teens Recently Rewarded," two names Lisa Younger and Michael Bates, were inadvertently omitted.

City Tax Rate of \$1.24 Proposed, as Income Drops And Inflation Hits Hard

by Al Skolnik

A Greenbelt municipal budget calling for a property tax rate of \$1.24 per \$100 of assessed valuation has been submitted by city manager James K. Giese for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975. The present tax rate is \$0.92 per \$100 assessed valuation. The budget also proposes an increase of 75 cents a month in the basic waste collection charge, from \$3.25 to \$4.00.

The increase of 32 cents in the tax rate can be traced to both an increase in operating expenditures due to inflation and a decrease in anticipated revenue from sources other than the property tax.

On top of this, the 1975 assessed valuation figure is expected to drop from \$56,700,000 in 1974 to \$54,000,000, as the result of the Governor's order rolling back property assessments to 50 percent of true value instead of 60 percent.

Expenditures for fiscal year 1974-1975 are expected to hit \$1,496,500, some \$133,000 more than the appropriated amount for fiscal year 1973-74. Revenues from sources other than the property tax are estimated at \$730,200, some \$49,100 less than the current year's figure. This leaves a shortfall of \$182,100 to be made up by an increase in the property tax rate.

Giese in his budget message said that the tax rate increase could be softened by allotting a greater portion of Federal revenue sharing funds to general operating expenses and away from capital improvements and by deferring or curtailing some expenditure items. But he noted that many of the proposed items have been deferred previously and these deferrals cannot be done forever without creating serious problems.

Expenditures

The expenditure increase of \$133,000 can be attributed mainly to personnel costs. A proposed 10% cost-of-living increase in the salaries of city employees would cost \$70,600. Giese noted that the Washington Metropolitan area cost-of-living index during the past year has increased over 10 percent.

Increased personnel funds of \$15,600 are allowed for the addition of secretarial help in the executive and public works departments. Another \$16,400 is for position reclassifications, and incentive plan for refuse collectors, and additional city funding of employees' hospitalization insurance. The pension and employee insurance account for another \$7,200 of the increase.

Finally, the budget provides for the continued funding with city moneys of two positions in the police and parks force previously funded by the Federal Public Employment Program (\$17,500). Federal funds for the latter program have been eliminated.

Outside of personnel costs and the increased cost of supplies such as fuel oil due to inflation and the

energy crisis, the major budgetary increase is a proposed \$20,000 for the funding of part of the cost of Greenbelt CARES Youth Service Bureau. Other increases include \$3,100 for contributions to recreation organizations in the city and \$800 as tax credits for elderly renters.

Every \$6,180 of increased expenditures (or reduced income) accounts for one cent on the tax rate.

Revenues

The anticipated drop of \$49,100 in revenues for 1974-75 are attributable to a number of items. The city's share of State income taxes is expected to amount to only \$239,000 in fiscal year 1975, compared with \$266,000 contained in last year's budget. This is the result of notification from the State of Md. that it had been erroneously paying the city a portion of the income tax paid by non-Greenbelt residents which should have been paid to the county.

The county tax rebate, which was estimated at \$32,000 in 1974, is expected to yield only \$18,200 in 1975. This lowered amount which represents a return of monies taxed by the county upon Greenbelt citizens for services not being rendered by the county because the city was providing the services, is the result of a proposed revision in the rebate formula by the county executive's office.

Another item being cut down is the State grants for police protection. The city anticipates receiving only \$25,000 in fiscal year 1975, compared with \$43,000 anticipated for 1974.

Increased yield from a few revenue items such as the admissions tax, State-shared race track and motor vehicle taxes, and interest, is expected to offset these losses, but only in small part. In addition, Giese is proposing that \$75,000 in Federal revenue-sharing funds be allocated to meet general operating costs in 1975 compared with \$63,400 in the current year.

This \$75,000 represents about all the revenue - sharing funds the city expects to receive in the coming year, so no new funds will be allocated to capital improvements such as the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. However, there remains some \$76,000 left over from the previous year's revenue-sharing funds for the latter purpose.

Meetings

The budget must be adopted by June 20, under the new charter change approved last year. Public hearing dates have been set for Monday and Tuesday, June 3 and 4. In the meantime, council will consider the capital improvements budget on Monday, April 22 and hold a meeting with recreation organizations on Tuesday, April 23. The police department budget will be reviewed on Monday, April 29 and the parks and recreation budget on Wednesday, May 1.

History of Greenbelt Property Tax

	Budgeted expenditures	Real Property Assessed valuation	Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation
1961-62	\$ 318,719	2/ \$ 9,383,760	\$1.77
1962-63	316,385	2/ 11,271,240	1.50
1963-64	373,930	2/ 18,139,930	1.31
1964-65	487,650	2/ 25,189,590	1.07
1965-66	563,400		1.07
1966-67	601,750	32,414,750	.99
1967-68	696,200	39,062,840	.87
1968-69	815,100	40,924,380	.85
1969-70	985,300	44,336,440	.80
1970-71	1,088,350	48,150,036	.80
1971-72	1,132,600	48,526,830	.84
1972-73	1,220,500	53,800,000	.92
1973-74	1,363,500	56,700,000	.92

1/ Prior to 1966-67, tax rate was levied for calendar year
2/ Represents calendar year data for 1962, 1963, 1964, and 1965.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Thursday, April 18, 1974

Sorry Streakers!

Streaking among bramble bushes can be anything but funny! This sorry discovery was made by three juveniles who were streaking at Greenbelt Lake Saturday night.

Apprehended by city police after midnight, the three were so cut by brambles that instead of taking them to the municipal building, police stopped at the firehouse. There the three were given showers and first aid for their wounds, some of which were in very delicate places. They were then released to the custody of their parents.

Some streakers seem to come to a sore end!

CITY NOTES

Greenbelt has its first woman refuse collector! One of two new employees on the refuse crew, she will fill the collector-driver vacancy as soon as she acquires her class B license (for over 20,000 lb. vehicle).

A section of concrete in the shopping center mall had to be removed over a steam line that connects High's and the Ben Franklin stores. Approximately 85 ft. of the 100-ft. span was removed. Additional cash bonds were required and received for the additional sections disturbed. The George Warner Company Plumbing Contractor completed the replacement of the steam pipe through the mall. This new pipe was insulated and the trench back-filled with bank gravel. The concrete work still remains to be completed.

Tree planting in the center was completed when the last four trees were planted this week.

The general crew has been doing backfill work behind the newly constructed stone wall at the center mall. The equipment operator spent one day on the new green at the gold course.

Several men from the general crew spent one rainy day preparing and storing the snow and ice equipment. Men from the general crew have also been cleaning storm sewer catch basins, patching streets, and have been helping out on the refuse truck when needed.

The refuse trailer was moved to a new location at the rear of the firehouse parking lot and the general crew cleaned the old area to make room for a storage shed that the fire department is purchasing.

The special detail crew repaired office machinery and cleaned up after the contractor who had installed the new ceiling in the Y.C.

MISHKAN TORAH

Activities at the Mishkan Torah Synagogue on Sun. April 21 include the following: Men's Club Breakfast meeting will take place at 9 a.m. A Get-Acquainted Brunch (nominal fee) for members and non-members will be held at 11 a.m. There will be an origami demonstration. Call 345-7435.

The Adult Education program at 8 p.m. will feature "Acupuncture". Guest lecturer is Dr. Frederick Lewis, medical director for the Acupuncture Clinics of America. Everyone is invited.

Recreation Review

Golden Egg Winners

The annual Easter Egg Hunt held on Monday was a great success. The winners for the different age groups were: Jamie Gibson, pre-school and kindergarten; James Ricciuti, 1st & 2nd grade; Mary Ann O'Hagan, 3rd & 4th grade; Tommy Boone, 5th & 6th grade. Congratulations to all winners.

Pool Operators Course

There are still openings in the pool operators course which will begin on Monday, April 22. Upon completion of this course a participant will be eligible for a pool operators license. For more information call P. G. Community College, 336-6000 ext. 303 or the Greenbelt Recreation Department at 474-6878.

Saturday Classes

No classes will be held on Saturday, April 20 unless otherwise arranged for by the instructor.

Tennis Court Use

The city's courts are in their usual heavy demand. Tennis players are advised to check posted rules and regulations for court use as well as schedules for lessons and tournaments to avoid unnecessary inconvenience.

Play to be Presented At Robert Goddard

The curtain will rise Friday evening, April 26, on the first of four presentations by the Seabrook Little Theatre of Robert Anderson's riotous 4-act comedy, "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running."

The play will be presented from the stage of Robert Goddard Junior High School on Good Luck Road in Seabrook. Each performance will begin promptly at 8:15 p.m. Subsequent performances will be held on April 27, May 3, and May 4.

Quilting Group Forming

The Greenbelt Recreation Department, and the National Quilting Association are co-sponsors of a quilting group. Mrs. Marie Luccarelli of the NQA will be here to help get the group started on Fri. Apr. 26, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Youth Center. Information will be distributed for beginners, and people who have quilting started or finished are invited to bring it along.

For information call Mrs. Peterson, 474-6970 or Mrs. Hall, 345-1744.

Boxwood Spring Meeting

Boxwood Civic Association will hold its spring meeting and provide a special welcome for new residents of Boxwood Village on Wed., May 1, at 8 p.m. at the American Legion Hall.

Entertainment will be provided by the Krazy Kats. All old and new residents of Boxwood are invited.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church



6905 Greenbelt Rd.

Worship Services

8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Sunday School 9:50 A.M.

Weekday Nursery School

9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

Phone 345-5111

Edward H. Birner, Pastor

Twin Pines Savings & Loan Assn.

Greenbelt, Maryland

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Greenbelt Concert Band



Pictured above is the Greenbelt Concert Band who will present a free concert, Thursday, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lamont Elementary School, Good Luck Road and Lamont Drive, New Carrollton. The conductor of the band is John Del-homme. Rosemary Waterworth, Kenneth Reck, Curtis Amistine, Louis Goldwin, and Lewis Grenville will be performing soloists. The announcer for the program is Micha Burchick. The concert is sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

(United Church of Christ)

Hillside and Crescent Roads - Phone 474-6171 (mornings)

Sunday Worship Service and Church School, 11 a.m.

April 21, Rev. Keith Wright, UCC Minister and Gallaudet College Librarian

April 28, Rev. Sidney Lovett, UCC Conference Minister

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Crescent & Greenhill Rds.

Telephone: 474-4040

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Church Training 6:00 p.m.

Rev. James O. Duncan

Morning Worship

11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship

7:00 p.m.

Ride our buses to Sunday School and Morning Worship

Office hours: 9:30 - 1:30

Monday - Friday

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, Md. 474-9410

Rev. Clifton D. Cunningham, Pastor 474-3381

Topic: "Our Unutterable Joy"

Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

Young Adult Fellowship 6:30 P.M.

(Nursery through Kindergarten at 11:00 A.M.)

Church School (Nursery through adults) 9:30 A.M.

City of Greenbelt, Maryland

Notice of Charter Amendment

On March 18, 1974, the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, adopted Charter Amendment Resolution Number 1974-1, and the following Title of the Resolution is a fair summary of the amendment:

Charter Amendment Resolution Number 1974-1

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE 11E OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND AND SECTION 13 OF ARTICLE 23A OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1957 EDITION AS AMENDED) TITLE, "CORPORATION-MUNICIPAL", SUBTITLE, "HOME RULE", TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND, SAID CHARTER BEING SUBTITLE 40 OF ARTICLE 17 OF THE CODE OF PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS OF MARYLAND (1963 EDITION AS AMENDED) AND CONTAINING IN WHOLE OR IN PART THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, BY AMENDING SECTION 40, TITLE "PURCHASES" TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH EXPENDITURES FOR SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT, CITY IMPROVEMENTS, OR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - EXCEPT PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - SHALL BE MADE ON WRITTEN CONTRACT WHICH SHALL BE AWARDED BY THE COUNCIL ON THE BASIS OF COMPETITIVE BIDS EXCEPT WHEN OTHERWISE PROVIDED, FROM ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

The above amendment shall become and be considered a part of the Charter of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, according to the terms of the amendment, in all respects to be effective and observed as such upon the 7th day of May, 1974, unless on or before the fortieth day after passage, which shall be the 27th day of April, 1974, there shall be presented to the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, or mailed to it by registered mail, a petition for referendum signed by twenty percent or more of the persons qualified to vote in the general election of the City of Greenbelt, requesting that the above Charter Amendment be submitted to referendum to the voters of the City of Greenbelt.

A copy of the above Charter Amendment Resolution is posted in the Greenbelt Municipal Building in accordance with the requirements of Section 13(d) of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and may be obtained from the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland, Telephone 474-8003.

James K. Giese, City Manager

Disposal of Surplus Land At Farm Causes Concern

by Jim O'Sullivan

Dr. Paul A. Putnam, the Assistant Director of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), is a busy man these days. Following an inventory of federal lands which was initiated in 1969, some 4,600 acres of the center's land have been declared excess and must be disposed of. Putnam is the chairman of the BARC planning committee which is in the process of drawing up its plans for the land disposal and for the long range use and development of the remaining 5,418 acres which BARC will retain as a permanent research facility. Since last December Putnam has been going out to nearby communities to explain BARC's plans and to get citizen input and comment.

In the past two months Putnam has made two visits to Greenbelt to present the BARC Master Plan and to discuss areas of concern. In February he met with members of the Greenbelt City Council and the Advisory Planning Board. More recently on April 9 he spoke at the Greenbelt Library at the invitation of the Prince George's Environment Coalition, where some 30 people turned out to hear him.

Master Plan

At present, the master plan, which is still in the preliminary drafting stages (target date for submission to NCPPC is June 30), calls for the disposal of 4600 acres of land east of Soil Conservation Road. This land, none of which borders the city's boundaries, was declared excess after it was determined that its use was not intense enough to justify retention. Other federal agencies will get the first crack at it, although it theoretically could work its way down through the hierarchy of governments and agencies to the city of Greenbelt.

It is unlikely, however, that it will ever get past the Department of Interior where it could possibly be developed into a park facility. At least this is what BARC hopes will happen, since it feels that a park would be most compatible with its own research function. Many other possible uses of the land have been proposed, however, including one suggestion by Prince Georges County that it be used as a site for a community college. Once the 4,600 acres are disposed of, BARC will consolidate its research activities on the remaining 5,418 acres.

Powder Mill Rd.

One of the most critical areas of concern to the Center is the Maryland Department of Transportation proposal to develop Powder Mill Road into a 4 lane primary traffic artery connecting the Baltimore-Washington Parkway with I-95. Putnam said that BARC considers this kind of roadway to be totally incompatible with the work at the Center. This road, which is presently owned and maintained by the Agriculture Department, runs right through the middle of the Center. It is two lanes wide and is used for slow moving farm vehicles, and other internal traffic. To expand it into a 4-lane highway would cut the Center in half and, according to the BARC Master Plan, destroy the internal traffic communications system. The master plan recommends alternate routes either north or south of Powder Mill Road.

Other Concerns

Putnam is also concerned about the extension of Kenilworth Avenue. If this extension is routed east of Edmonston Road, it would eliminate a critical portion of the Nutrition and Animal Parasitology land resources.

Another area of the Center threatened by transportation plans is the South Farm. Located just inside the Beltway and west of Route 1, the South Farm is an ideal site for research on fruit trees. However, Metro currently has plans to locate a station and/or car barn on the farm which would wipe it out. There are also plans for an extension of I-95 to the University of Maryland which would eliminate the South Farm. Putnam feels that the Center must take a stand to defend the South Farm or request that an equivalent amount of land (approximately 400 acres) be retained from the land east of Soil Conservation Road. Putnam points out that the South Farm has the proper slope and air temperature for research

on fruit trees. He would prefer to see the Metro facility located on the Springhill Lake industrial tract.

Justifies Center

In justifying the existence of the Beltsville Center in the middle of a growing metropolitan area with intense demands for land, Putnam is an earnest advocate. He cites the fact that the Beltsville Center is the largest concentration of agricultural research in the world. It employs 450 scientists, 1,600 employees, and has a \$28 million budget. It is a center with an international reputation, and it has the largest agricultural library in the world. It is ideally located for transportation and for receiving supplies. And the fact that a large suburban population has grown up around it may justify its location in an unexpected way. It is a rural oasis, where there is at least a momentary escape, amidst fields where corn is growing and cattle are grazing, from the pressures of interstate highways and intense development.

Realistically, Putnam considers the abandonment of the 4,600 acres and the consolidation of the remaining 5,400, as the only way of coping with the tremendous pressures put on the Center by the rapid growth of the county in the last several decades. Behind Putnam's covert description of the history and international reputation of the Beltsville Center, is the realization that in any re-evaluation of the center's future, there is always the possibility that the center could be even more drastically reduced in size and functions.

One difficulty in establishing the importance of the Center is that it is hard to see how a farm is being "used". Putnam says that people look at an open field and feel that nothing is happening there, that it is idle. "The land is a laboratory," Putnam said. "Although it may seem that it is not being used."

Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

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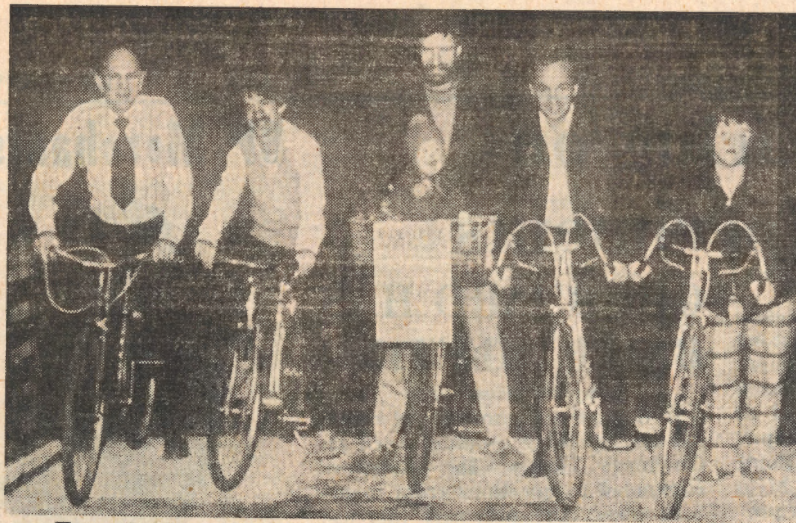
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Listed... Lovely two bedroom corner, frame townhouse with addition; fenced yard - improvements; near shopping area; June 1st occ. Selling for \$16,287. Beautiful three bedroom masonry home with remodeled kitchen; like-new appliances; yards landscaped very nicely; This one you should see! Selling for \$25,500. Mid-July occ.

We have a good selection of two bedroom townhouses (brick and frame) from which to select. Prices are ranging from \$12,500 to \$24,000.00 - immediate to June occ.

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From left to right: County Council Vice Chairman Francis W. White, Gary Davis, John Unger and daughter Elizabeth, County Councilman Winfield Kelly and Betty Jo Labukas getting ready for the Ride-A-Bike for the Retarded on Sunday, April 21 at 1 p.m.

Ride-A-Bike For the Retarded

"Ride a Bike for the Retarded" is to be held in Greenbelt, Sun., April 21. Participants should meet at the Youth Center between 12:30 and 1 p.m. The trail runs through the city into the Research Center. Monies collected from the sponsors of the bikers will be directed to the Prince Georges County Association for Retarded Citizens in support of their program. Registration forms may be picked up at the Youth Center.

Greenbelt Carry-out

Fri., Sat., & Sun., April 19th, 20th & 21st
Lg. Cheese Pizza \$1.25
Sat., April 20th, Royal Steak Sub. 65c
Monday thru Tuesday - Dinner Hour Special
6 Pk. Carton Drinks 95c to \$1.10
107 CENTERWAY 474-4998

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL POOL 1974 SEASON ADMISSION PASSES NOW ON SALE GREENBELT RESIDENTS SAVE!!!

Discount Fees For Greenbelt Residents Purchasing Season Passes Before May 25, 1974

Family	\$35.00
Single	\$17.50

The Greenbelt Municipal Swimming Pool will open for the 1974 season on Saturday, May 25th at 1:00 p.m. and close after Labor Day. Season passes now on sale.

AVAILABLE BY MAIL AND AT THE CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE: Please fill out the application, mail it with your check made payable to CITY OF GREENBELT and passes will be sent to you by mail. Season passes may be purchased at the Treasurer's Office in the Municipal Building, Monday thru Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

NON-RESIDENT season passes will be offered only to persons who have been recommended by a Greenbelt resident. The affidavit below must be signed by a Greenbelt resident.

POOL HOURS of operation are 1 pm to 8:30 pm. Prior to closing of the public schools, the pool will open at 4 pm Monday thru Friday. Morning hours are scheduled for swimming classes, swim team practice, synchronized swimming and general pool maintenance.

POOL FEES:

Season Passes

Family Admission

RESIDENT ONLY BEFORE

May 25, 1974 - \$35.00

Single

RESIDENT ONLY BEFORE

May 25, 1974 - \$17.50

Senior Citizen (62 yrs. and over)

Daily Admission

Adult (18 yrs. and over)

Child (6-17 yrs.)

Senior Citizen (62 yrs. and over)

Child (under 6 accompanied by adult)

Guest Season Child Pass - per child

RESIDENT NON-RESIDENT

\$40.00 \$85.00

20.00 45.00

13.00 n/a

1.25 2.00

.75 1.50

.50 n/a

FREE FREE

\$25.00 n/a

All children 6 thru 12 years of age will be issued arm tags. These tags will be issued at the pool cashier's booth upon surrender of the child's Season Pass. This exchange MUST be accomplished upon the child's FIRST VISIT TO THE POOL.

SEASON PASS APPLICATION

FAMILY

PHONE

ADDRESS

EMERGENCY PHONE

I hereby apply for season admission to the Greenbelt Municipal Swimming Pool and enclose payment for the plan checked below. I REALIZE THAT THE PASSES ARE ISSUED TO INDIVIDUAL FAMILY MEMBERS AND ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE.

NON-RESIDENTS: The following affidavit must be signed by a resident of Greenbelt.

The above applicant is personally known to me and is recommended for season admission to the Greenbelt Pool.

Resident's signature

Phone

Address

Date

Resident Family ☐ Before May 25, 1974 \$35.00

☐ After May 25, 1974 \$40.00

Non-Resident Family ☐ \$85.00

☐ Resident Senior Citizen \$13.00

Resident Single ☐ Before May 25, 1974 \$17.50

☐ After May 25, 1974 \$20.00

Non-Resident Single ☐ \$45.00

Print names of all members of your immediate family over six years of age (including yourself) who are to receive season passes.

Name (first then last)	Relationship	Age
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Public Hearing on Sludge Experiments

by Elaine Skolnik

The Maryland Environmental Service's (MES) proposal to extend the sludge composition experiment at the U. S. Agricultural Research Center (ARC) will be opened to public comment on Monday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at High Point High School in Beltsville. MES officials will give a 15-minute presentation at the start of the public hearing highlighting the composting achievements, justifying the experiment's continuation and explaining the scope of future experiments.

Sludge, the heavy, black solid waste produced after treatment of sewage, has been trucked to Beltsville in leak-proof trucks for the past year from the Blue Plains sewage treatment plant. Although 90 acres were set aside for the experiments, the actual compost site occupies about five acres. The remainder of the site is heavily wooded. The experiment procedure involves drying the sludge by mixing it with sawdust, wood chips, waste paper, and composting it into a soil conditioner via a natural chemical heating process that starts once the solid waste is aerated on a cement pad.

Tests to date, conducted by the ARC and MES in the joint project, have shown that digested sludge produced by secondary treatment plants can be successfully converted into compost. According to MES Design and Construction Chief Clinton R. Albrecht, more than 16,000 tons of sludge have been composted at Beltsville, and most of the resultant soil enricher was used by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on highway median strips away from human contact. "There is still much more to learn about the process," he said.

For example, one problem is how to handle undigested, raw sludge that is chemically precipitated. When Blue Plains instituted the interim chemical treatment process the amount of sludge sent to Beltsville last fall increased drastically. In addition, the sludge was undigested. This combination plus adverse climate conditions created noxious odors. As a result, the chemical treatment process was halted at Blue Plains, and Beltsville received digested sludge for composting, along with small quantities of undigested sludge for experimentation. ARS and MES feel that the undigested sludge with its nitrogen, phosphorus and other valuable nutrients can be converted into much needed fertilizer.

County Health Officer Dr. Perry Stearns, concerned with the odor problem and the expensive cost of composting, suggested that further experimentation be limited to 50 wet tons of sludge daily rather than the 50 to 100 wet ton range that MES is requesting. However, he felt that the end result of composting is an acceptable and apparently safe product, and noted that valuable research is being conducted on the sludge-compost's effect on land and crops.

Dr. John Walker of ARS felt the odor problem could be controlled by improved management of the site, i.e. mixing and turning of sludge on the weekends. He envisions a closer working relationship among the involved agencies so that when problems arise, they can be immediately resolved. He said the new procedure upon receiving a "smelly" batch of sludge is to dispatch it quickly to a landfill.

Experts feel that the only feasible and environmentally sound way to dispose of sludge is by converting the thick, oozy waste material into useful resources such as compost. Composting is considered the most flexible and sensible method of solid waste disposal and is said to be ecologically preferable to incineration, landfill or ocean dumping.

The Greenbelt city council went on record in favor of the continuation of MES activities, but noted the desirability of maintaining adequate controls over odor emission, protection of ground-water sources,

GHI BOARD HAS BRIEF MEETING

by Sid Kastner

In a relatively short board meeting on Thursday evening, April 11, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. directors responded to questions from members about the proposed increase in monthly charges (put to the membership in yesterday's special meeting), and heard reports on the crawl space inspection program (for the purpose of improving heating efficiency) and on the status of the maintenance call backlog. An encouraging note on the heating fuel situation was sounded by the manager when he informed the board that for the first three months of this year, about 80,000 gallons or 10% less fuel was consumed than for the same period last year, despite in fact a slightly higher heating load this year; this reduction has been achieved through the special measures which have been carried out by the staff to date.

Questions were raised from the floor, by Mrs. Frances Morley and Mrs. Mary Welsh, concerning the possibility of individual members helping to defray the cost of the fuel oil price increase and the long-term capital improvements program. Manager Breashears indicated that part of the capital improvement expense on a member's home could indeed be paid directly by the member if desired. Mrs. Welsh urged that information on any such choices available to individual members be circulated more widely, though Mrs. Edna Farmer as well as most of the board expressed doubt that many members could afford to help the corporation out by direct payments.

An earlier report of the Planning, Engineering and Maintenance committee recommended that a sum of \$500 be authorized to hire an engineering consultant to make a study of crawl space conditions (vapor barriers, insulation, ground water) under a sample of frame homes south of Northway. W. N. Meyer, the consultant in question, has responded in a letter to the effect that the fixed sum of \$500 would not be sufficient for the project. Breashears reported to the board on further discussions he is having with Meyer which will help to clarify the amount of work proposed.

The staff gave a written breakdown of the backlog of members' maintenance calls which shows that only eight calls out of 77 date back more than two weeks, with no maintenance problems being more than one month old. Director Tom White commended the staff and especially maintenance superintendent Nicholas Dunlap for the progress in this area.

The board also acted on two member requests - affirmatively on one request for permission to purchase a second (frame) unit which will be held in trust for grandchildren, and negatively on another request to erect a privacy screen. In the latter case the board was divided on the matter because it was generally agreed that the screen in itself would not be offensive; however the over-all height (six feet) and the problem of setting precedents weighed against the request in the final vote.

Public Schools Honors Volunteers

The week of April 21-27 is National Volunteer Week, and Prince Georges County public schools plan to honor the more than 10,000 volunteers in the school system.

At the board of education meeting on Apr. 25 at Bladensburg senior high, an award will be presented to Joan Daniels, a volunteer from Greenbelt North End Elementary, who will accept the award on behalf of all volunteers in the school system.

Scheduled at Oakcrest elementary on April 24 will be a volunteer Expo.

es, and the amount of sludge processed daily.

BP Merchants Sponsor Marathon



Race Director Marty Greenbaum, right, presents the D. C. Road Runners Marathon Run Trophy to Beltway Plaza Promotion Director Al Rosen to inaugurate the Beltway Plaza Marathon on Saturday, April 20 at 10 a.m.

Greenbelt Drug Raid

by Elaine Skolnik

According to Police Chief William T. Lane, the Greenbelt Police Department conducted its largest drug raid last weekend. At 4:32 a.m. on April 13, the police raided Apartment 102 at 11-C Parkway Road and arrested three adults and a juvenile. Police acted on an informant's tip. The suspects were asleep in the apartment at the time.

Just hours before entering, the police obtained a warrant to search the apartment. In applying to the judge for such a warrant, the police must accurately describe the apartment premises about to be entered. In addition, probable cause must be shown to the judge before he will issue a warrant.

Assistant States Attorney Daniel Cassidy assisted in the preparation and execution of the warrant and accompanied the police on the raid which was unrelated to the recent county drug raids involving the University of Maryland.

Find Pot

Police said they found about two kilos (kilogram; 1 Kilogram is about 2.2 lbs.) of cut marijuana, including 20 one-ounce bags apparently intended for sale, several smaller bags, six large buckets with small plants growing in them, 93 planters in a closet with plants in various stages of development, lamps used to stimulate the growth of the plants and numerous narcotic implements such as water pipes, a catalog containing narcotic implements for sale and a booklet on the cultivation of marijuana.

Police estimated the street value of the marijuana at \$1,320. Following the raid, the Federal Bureau of Dangerous Drugs, which assists the city by performing laboratory tests for drug identification, examined the contents confiscated.

Two of the three adult men arrested were held on \$3,500 bond on charges of possession of marijuana with intent to sell. The third man who co-leased the apartment was additionally charged with a common nuisance and held on \$6,000 bond. Two of the three men were Greenbelters. All three were subsequently released. A 17 year old College Park girl found in the apartment was released to her parents.

Greenbelt police taking part in the drug raid on Sunday were Sgt. Thomas E. Van Valkenburgh, Lt. John C. Krob, and Privates Daniel Blake and Ralph Cancelose.

The investigation continued and on Monday a fourth adult man surrendered to the police accompanied by his attorney. A co-lessee of the apt., he was charged with possessing a dangerous controlled substance with intent to distribute and maintaining a common nuisance. He was released in the custody of his attorney.

Charges Deemed Serious

Chief Lane noted that some of the charges against the suspects are very serious, carrying with them jail sentences upon conviction. In the area of drugs, he felt that a major effort of the department was to apprehend those who engaged in selling drugs for profit.

The chief encourages anyone who has information concerning the distribution and selling of drugs to contact the department. Such information will be treated anonymously. According to Chief Lane,

the police have other places under observation for possible drug violations. Possession, distribution, selling and cultivation of drugs including marijuana is illegal.

In 1972 there were 43 arrests by the Greenbelt Police for possession of marijuana and glue-sniffing; in 1973 some 53 arrests were made. Most of the offenders did not reside in Greenbelt. The Greenbelt police cooperates and exchanges information with respect to drugs with federal and county agencies and municipal, county and state police.

TAKE CARE OF GREENBELT LAKE

by Timothy Moore

Do you take Greenbelt Lake for granted? — People in many other communities consider Greenbelters to be extraordinarily lucky because of Greenbelt Lake. They come from many towns around the Greenbelt area to enjoy the beauty, the many recreational opportunities it affords, and, of course, on July 4, the fireworks display. The citizens of Greenbelt tend to take the lake for granted, not recognizing that if they do not care for it, it will become a useless eyesore instead of a recreational wonder.

The lake is being littered by careless people throwing trash into it. The lake park is a fine place for a picnic, but there are trash barrels provided for your cans and other trash. There is where you should deposit them, not in the lake. The lake is stocked with various kinds of fish for the enjoyment of the fishermen, but there are many careless individuals who snuff out the oxygen required by the fish by draining their oil into the storm sewers which empty into the lake.

The only way we can preserve the beauty and pleasure of the lake is by caring about the environment and expressing our concern by properly disposing of our own trash. If we all do our part, Greenbelt Lake will be beautiful.

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\$1.50 for a 10-word minimum, 10c for each additional word. Submit ads in writing, accompanied by cash payment, either to the News Review office at 15 Parkway before 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication, or to the Twin Pines Savings and Loan office. There is no charge for advertising items that are found.

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LOST - SHAWN - A WEST highland white, terrier, long white hair, wearing a collar. Lost Friday night in the Lakeside area. His family misses him, if you have any information, please call 345-6856. Reward for his return.

FOR SALE: SWING SET with slide - \$10; 3 school desks - \$3. ea. Call 474-0387.

ELECTRIC LEAD GUITAR - "Silverstone Best." 4 pick ups, twang stick \$50. Mark, 474-6587.

WANTED: Experienced flute teacher. 474-2935.

FOR SALE: WHIRLPOOL refrigerator, frost free. Phone: 345-7587.

FOR SALE: 12-A Laurel Hill, open house, 4/21/74. Hours 1-4 p.m.

WANTED: ONE REASONABLY priced chest of drawers in good condition. Call 474-2753 after 6 p.m.

FOUND: RETAINING BRACE, near 13 Court, Ridge, between apts. and Court. Found Easter weekend. Call 345-3043 for information.

CARPETING: 45 sq. yds. gold-green, extra-thick padding, perfect condition. Fits SHL section 7. 474-7838.

PAINT BRANCH SEMI PRO MUSIC - Greenbelt Library, Wednesday, April 24. 7:30 p.m. Music of the English Middle Ages & Renaissance, for recorders, krumphorns, voice, lute, harpsichord.

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Our Neighbors

by Elaine Skolnik - 474-6060

Gloria Schulstad and Al Skolnik teamed up at last Friday's 5-table duplicate bridge session to win handsomely. They had a 5-point margin over second-place winners Lucille and Lou Loushine. Third place went to Joe Nusinov and Joe Reid. Next game: Friday, April 26.

Parkdale students, Karen Goldstein, Nancy Weintraub, and Mary Figlia recently completed the Paramedical Intern Course sponsored by the Explorer Scouts. The series of health career seminars was given at Prince Georges General Hospital.

Our sincere sympathy to Cy Kovalchik, 6A Hillside, on the recent loss of his father.

NURSERY SCHOOL HAS YARD SALE

Greenbelt Cooperative Nursery School, Hillside and Crescent Rds. (behind the Community Church), will sponsor a Yard Sale on Sat., Apr. 27, from 10 a.m. until sell-out. Worn clothing in good condition and many other items will be available. In case of rain, the sale will be Sat., May 4.

The nursery school, a parent cooperative, is accepting applications for next year. The sale offers an opportunity to see the school, talk to parents, and see parent cooperation in action. The school will also be open to interested parents on Wed., Apr. 24, from 1 to 2 p.m. The school accepts 3 and 4 year-olds and operates one-half day. For information call 474-6263 or 552-2771.

Concerts This Week By P. G. Symphony Orchestra

The Prince Georges Symphony Orchestra will present a pair of concerts to which the public is invited. The first of these will be held Sun., April 21, 4 p.m. at Friendly Sr. High School in Oxon Hill.

The second concert will be held Wed., April 24, 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium of the Prince Georges Community College at Largo.

In Greenbelt's Library

Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy will be the topic of a book discussion on Tues., April 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room.

Paint Branch Pro Musica will present a program of English Renaissance music on historic instruments such as recorders, krumphorns, and the harpsichord on Wed. April 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room.

The film "Flying Down to Rio" featuring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers will be shown Thurs., April 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room.

Made in 1933, this film shows a Hollywood version of the American Dream - wealth and beauty at a time when the country was in the throes of the depression.

A workshop for babysitters, ages 11 to 15, will be held on Mondays April 29, May 6, 13 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room.

Topics will cover what potential babysitters should know about: infant and child care; home safety and emergencies; fire safety; and stories and games for children. To participate, call 345-5800, or visit the Children's or Young Adult Departments between April 22 and 27.

DEMOCRATIC CLUB

The Greenbelt Democratic Club will meet on Friday, April 26 at 7 p.m. in the GHI offices on Hamilton Place. The nominating committee will submit nominations for offices of directors of the club. Nominations can be made from the floor. Everyone is welcome. All chief judges and judges are urged to attend.

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Proposes \$.08 Cut In County Budget

Prince Georges County Executive William W. Gullett is proposing a \$362.6 million budget for the county government in fiscal 1975 with an eight-cent cut in the property tax to \$3.29 per \$100 assessed valuation. The budget also has no hikes in real estate transfer tax or local amusements and admissions levy.

Gullett unveiled his new budget at a press conference April 15 shortly after he met in executive session with the county council to brief them on the proposal. Council already has slated public hearings on the budget for May 14 at Parkdale High School in Riverdale and May 28 at the County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro. Both sessions begin at 7:30 p.m.

Gullett noted that if the legislators were to approve his proposed budget, it would be the fourth consecutive year in which county real estate taxes have either held the line or dropped. Taxes were cut in Prince Georges last year by 20 cents.

He pointed out that of the \$36.3 million increase over last year, 71 percent or about \$25.8 million is for fixed or mandated increases such as salary hikes, retirement contributions police and fire education incentive, election costs, school lunch subsidies and similar expenses.

Funds for the 7% cost-of-living salary increase negotiated by the Board of Education for its employees and money to keep county government workers salaries in line with those of other public servants also are included.

Gullett's message notes that the county's assessable base now stands at \$3.6 billion. "We won't generate any new revenue from the growth of the base however," the Executive said, attributing the situation to the Governor's cutback of the assessment level. The move, according to Gullett, cost Prince Georges approximately \$9 million.

Continuing a trend of recent

years, the education category ate up around half of the budget - \$188.4 million of the total \$362 million.

Property taxes accounted for \$116.8 million of Prince Georges total revenue with state and federal aid contributing \$113.5 million. Revenue-sharing will bring in about \$16.3 million.



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6 lessons - \$12.00

3:15 - 5:15 on Thursdays

Please call to arrange registration

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Sunday, April 28

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